(d) whether prescribed norms are not being followed while sanctioning new L.P.G. agency; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) While most of LPG connections sanctioned under MP's quota are released promptly by Oil Companies, delay occurs in some connections due to incomplete/wrong address, letters returned/undelivered, etc.

(c) Oil Industry has been asked to submit a revised LPG Marketing Plan for sanctioning new LPG agencies, for consideration of Government.

(d) Prescribed norms are being followed.

(e) Does not arise.

**Complaints against the L.P.G. Distribution System**

2455. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are widespread and varied complaints against the L.P.G. distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, the nature of complaints received in this regard and action taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to frame new deterant rules to check the irregularities in this regard, if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) There are some complaints of irregularities. Corrective action is taken by oil companies to prevent such acts. At present there are no proposals to frame new rules.

**Balance of Pool Account**

2456. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the remarks in para 7.3 of the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Union Government No. 7 (Commercial) of 1989; and

(b) if so, what is the balance of pool Account as on 31st March, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Balance of Pool Account as on 31st March, 1992 Rs. 5128.18 crores.

**Demand for Hike in rates of Royalty on Crude Oil from Crude Oil Production States**

2457. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat, Assam and other crude producing State have been demanding a hike in the rates of royalty on crude oil;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, their demands, indicating the extent of increase demanded by them; and

(c) what decision has since been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The fixation of the rate of royalty on crude oil for the period 1-4-1990 to 31-3-1993 is under consideration of Government.

**Setting up of Hydro-Carbon Cracker Reactor**

2458. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's first hydro-carbon cracker reactor has been commissioned at the Gujarat Refinery in Baroda;